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BOROUGH OF NEWBURY
RURAL DISTRICTS OF BRADFIELD, NEWBURY
AND HUNGERFORD

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ANNUAL
REPORT

of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
(including the reports of the
Public Health Inspectors)

for the year

1963



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**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH
BERKS JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you the Annual Report for 1963.

It must be clear through every day observation that the population of the joint area continues to increase. Hardly any journey can be taken through this part of the County without seeing extensive new housing development. This overall impression is confirmed by the figures for population given in the following pages. These show that almost two and a half thousand more people are living in the district than at a corresponding time last year. In particular, there is rapid expansion in Bradfield Rural District. In this particular district the population has increased by over 5%. This compares with a percentage increase of less than 3% over the whole area.

Although the Birth Rate in Bradfield Rural District is high the greater part of the increase comes from migration into the Committee's area. This fact can be seen from the table which shows that although the total births for the whole joint area are less than 1,800, the population has nevertheless increased by over 2,400. Clearly newcomers to the district must account for the difference between these figures, particularly as this difference would take no account of deaths.

On the table of causes of death it is again depressingly obvious to have to draw attention to the preponderance of deaths due to diseases of the heart and circulation. I choose the word depressing, because at the moment we can offer so little positive advice on the means of avoiding these diseases.

There is, however, one specific instruction which we can give, and which has been given for many years. This is the advice that one should refrain from cigarette smoking. The clearest connection has been shown between cigarette smoking and cancer of the lung. There is additionally much evidence to connect cigarette smoking with other diseases, one of which certainly is coronary insufficiency. These facts have been repeated and reiterated times without number.

It must be obvious that the efforts to dissuade people from this harmful habit have been singularly unavailing. Non-smokers are still assailed at every turn by cigarette smoke. Every

restaurant, shop and cinema is tainted and polluted by the smokers, whose number is not appreciably less than last week, last month or last year. The 6,000 deaths per year following road accidents occasion must justifiable dismay and every available publicity medium as well as much compulsion is utilised to try to reduce this deplorable waste of life. But the much greater total of cigarette casualties is tackled in a much more half-hearted fashion. Surely the time has come for more forthright action from a Ministerial level. In making such a suggestion I realise that I am encroaching on the difficult field of finance, with the implication of lost revenue from taxation.

At first appearance the table of infectious diseases looks frightening with a total for one disease of over 1,500. When it is seen that this disease is Measles there can be a certain relaxation of anxiety. I have pointed out on previous occasions the incidence of outbreaks of Measles at intervals of approximately two years. 1963 fitted into this pattern. A disturbing feature of this total of notifications is its acknowledged inaccuracy. The amount of Measles not notified is known to be large. Many factors are responsible for this. For example, the parents may not bother to call a doctor or the doctor may, during the hectic months of an outbreak be too hard pressed to send the notifications to the local authority. Whatever the cause I do not feel that anything is lost by this breakdown of the system of notification.

It is nevertheless a little disturbing to think that each of these notifications represents a payment of 2/6 to a doctor, and also involves a certain amount of time, labour and expense in recording notifications, sending out payments and so on. Particularly is this so when one admits that nowadays no action is taken on receipt of a Measles notification. The only justification for retaining Measles as a notifiable disease is the possibility that the causative virus may alter its characteristics in the future and the disease may again become a serious problem. This is more than a theoretical possibility and the outbreak of a new type of Influenza some five years ago was due to just such a change in the characteristics of a virus.

The much more important epidemics of our present age are the less easily controlled, and less easily defined ones which include those I have touched on in previous paragraphs. These are the widespread incidence of heart disease and the increasing incidence of cancer of the lung, and also the vast amount of mental ill-health, much of which is sub-clinical. Their causes are in many cases unknown. Even the extent of the disease is not certain in many instances. It is only too clear that they present a problem which medicine in general will have to face in steadily increasing amounts.

There is one further modern epidemic which I must mention as I was taken to task for making a statement in last year's Annual Report without making it clear that I was only expressing my opinion. I refer, in this case, to the alarming degree of dental decay. In last year's Report I made mention of the Government's approval of Fluoridation as a preventive measure. I must this year repeat my observation of last year, that in my opinion Fluoridation should not be delayed any longer.

I must also make it clear that all the statements of opinion in this Report are those of either myself or of the Public Health Inspector for the appropriate area, and are not in any way the explicit or implicit opinions of the Council involved.

May I finally again express my thanks to the Members of the Committee and to my colleagues for their help, advice and co-operation during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT HANDY,

Medical Officer of Health,
South Berks Joint Public Health Committee.

SOUTH BERKS JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1963 - 1964

LIST OF MEMBERS

Newbury Borough ... R. A. KNIGHT, ESQ.
M. W. PAYNE, ESQ., M.B.E.
J. W. SLATER, ESQ., J.P.

Bradfield R.D. MRS. M. P. SHOWERS.
A. H. WYATT, ESQ.
MRS. K. M. BLANDFORD.

Newbury R.D. F. HOWES, ESQ., J.P. (Chairman).
F. A. HOLLAND, ESQ.
H. C. ROBBINS, ESQ.

Hungerford R.D. MISS C. C. CARDEN.
MAJOR J. W. B. COLE.

Berks County Council ... A. ARBUTHNOTT, ESQ., M.B.E., E.D.
MRS. P. DAVIES.
D. H. PARKER BOWLES, ESQ.

Clerk: L. SOUTHERN, ESQ., LL.B., Municipal Buildings, Newbury.
(Telephone 109).

BOROUGH OF NEWBURY, RURAL DISTRICTS OF BRADFIELD, NEWBURY AND HUNGERFORD

Medical Officer of Health:

R. HANDY, M.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Office, Greenham House, Newbury.

Telephone: Newbury 1144.

Newbury Borough	... J. HAGUE, F.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector, 16, Market Place, Newbury. (Telephone 446). Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.
Bradfield R.D.	... P. J. WING, M.A.P.H.I., 26, Bath Road, Reading. (Telephone 55581). Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors Education Board.
	G. ROSSER, M.A.P.H.I., Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors. Education Board. Certificate of the Royal Society of Health as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.
Newbury R.D.	... C. J. COOKE, M.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector, Phoenix House, Bartholomew Street, Newbury. (Telephone 2400). Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.
	S. BURGESS, M.A.P.H.I., Add. Public Health Inspector. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.
	M. E. NORTHCOMBE, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Add. Public Health Inspector. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Hungerford R.D. J. E. EDWARDS, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,
Chief Public Health Inspector.
The Priory, Hungerford. (Telephone 29).
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
Sanitary Inspector.

J. B. STOCKS, M.A.P.H.I.,
Certificate of Public Health Inspectors'
Examination Board as Public Health
Inspector.

GENERAL STATISTICS

District	Area in Acres (Land and Inland Water)			Estimated Population	Persons per Acre
Newbury Borough	2,612	21,010	8.0
Bradfield Rural	53,008	31,810	0.6
Newbury Rural	41,660	21,960	0.5
Hungerford Rural	44,817	10,450	0.2
Joint Districts	142,097	85,230	0.6

Area	Births	Deaths	Population Change (+ or -)	Births Minus Deaths
Newbury Borough	...	427	249	+ 310
Bradfield R.D.	...	747	274	+ 1630
Newbury R.D.	...	433	169	+ 310
Hungerford R.D.	...	172	114	+ 180
Joint Districts	...	1779	806	+ 2430

VITAL STATISTICS

Births and Deaths

The following table shows the totals of births and deaths and the rates per thousand appropriate population. The corresponding figures for 1962 are in brackets.

District	Number of Live Birth	Live Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Live Births
Newbury Borough	427 (421)	20.7 (20.1)	10.1 (11.7)	9.4 (11.9)
Bradfield Rural	747 (666)	21.4 (19.6)	10.2 (8.7)	6.7 (25.5)
Newbury Rural	433 (412)	19.3 (18.8)	8.5 (9.4)	13.9 (21.8)
Hungerford Rural	172 (155)	17.9 (16.9)	8.7 (11.6)	17.4 (45.2)
Joint Districts	1779 (1654)	20.8 (20.0)	9.5 (10.3)	10.1 (22.0)

	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Newbury Rural	Hungerford Rural	Joint Districts
Illegitimate live births per cent. total live births	6.1 (6.4)	5.9 (5.7)	6.7 (7.8)	7.0 (2.6)	6.2 (6.1)

District	Still-births	Total live and still-births	Still- birth rate	Neo-natal death rate
Newbury Borough	8 (5)	435 (426)	18.4 (11.7)	9.4 (11.9)
Bradfield Rural	9 (7)	756 (673)	11.9 (10.4)	6.7 (16.5)
Newbury Rural	9 (3)	442 (415)	20.3 (7.2)	9.2 (21.8)
Hungerford Rural	5 (4)	177 (159)	28.2 (25.2)	11.6 (25.8)
Joint Districts	31 (19)	1816 (1673)	17.2 (11.4)	8.4 (17.5)

District	Early Neo-natal mortality rate		Peri-natal mortality rate
Newbury Borough	...	7.0 (7.1)	25.3 (18.9)
Bradfield Rural	...	6.7 (15.0)	18.5 (25.2)
Newbury Rural	...	9.2 (17.0)	29.4 (24.1)
Hungerford Rural	...	11.6 (25.8)	39.6 (50.3)
Joint Districts	...	7.9 (14.5)	24.9 (25.7)

District	Total Infant Deaths	Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	Legitimate Infant mortality rate	Illegitimate Infant mortality rate
Newbury Borough	4 (5)	4 (5)	7.5 (12.7)	38.5 (—)
Bradfield Rural	5 (17)	5 (11)	7.1 (25.5)	— (26.3)
Newbury Rural	6 (9)	4 (9)	9.9 (23.0)	68.9 (—)
Hungerford Rural	3 (7)	2 (4)	18.6 (46.4)	— (—)
Joint Districts	18 (38)	15 (29)	8.8 (23.8)	27.0 (9.8)

Maternal Mortality

There were no deaths in this category in any of the four areas.

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Figures for 1962 are in brackets).

DEATHS:	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Newbury Rural	Hunger- ford Rural	Total (all areas)
Tuberculosis respiratory	2 (2)	2 (2)	1 (—)	— (—)	5 (4)
Tuberculosis, other	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Syphilitic disease	— (—)	1 (—)	— (1)	— (—)	1 (1)
Diphtheria	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Whooping Cough	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Meningococcal infections	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)
Acute Poliomyelitis	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Measles	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1 (1)	3 (—)	— (—)	1 (—)	5 (1)
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4 (9)	9 (2)	5 (5)	2 (1)	20 (17)
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	7 (7)	15 (11)	5 (9)	6 (6)	33 (33)
Malignant neoplasm, breast	7 (6)	4 (4)	7 (4)	2 (1)	20 (15)
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1 (1)	1 (—)	3 (1)	1 (—)	6 (2)
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	18 (21)	38 (21)	19 (15)	10 (8)	85 (65)
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2 (—)	3 (2)	2 (—)	1 (1)	8 (3)
Diabetes	— (1)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (1)	1 (2)
Vascular lesions of nervous systems—stroke	43 (53)	33 (31)	28 (31)	15 (15)	119 (130)
Coronary disease, angina	45 (54)	48 (43)	26 (34)	17 (23)	136 (154)
Hypertension with heart disease	2 (4)	1 (7)	4 (3)	5 (5)	12 (19)
Other heart disease	35 (42)	23 (19)	25 (33)	19 (19)	102 (113)
Other circulatory disease	13 (8)	13 (15)	7 (10)	8 (6)	41 (39)
Influenza	5 (4)	— (1)	— (1)	— (1)	5 (7)
Pneumonia	16 (15)	18 (19)	9 (12)	6 (14)	49 (60)
Bronchitis	13 (8)	11 (13)	3 (6)	7 (9)	34 (36)
Other disease of respiratory system	1 (2)	2 (—)	1 (3)	1 (—)	5 (5)
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	5 (3)	2 (4)	2 (—)	— (4)	9 (11)
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1 (1)	2 (1)	1 (—)	— (1)	4 (3)
Nephritis & nephrosis	— (—)	2 (—)	1 (1)	1 (1)	4 (2)
Hyperplasia of prostate	4 (2)	3 (3)	2 (—)	3 (2)	12 (7)
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)
Congenital malformations	2 (3)	2 (6)	1 (6)	1 (2)	6 (17)
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11 (19)	24 (24)	9 (23)	6 (11)	50 (77)
Motor vehicle accidents	4 (7)	6 (1)	3 (2)	1 (—)	14 (10)
All other accidents	4 (6)	5 (6)	4 (1)	1 (6)	14 (19)
Suicide	2 (1)	3 (1)	— (1)	— (—)	5 (3)
Homicide and operations of war	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
All causes	249 (281)	274 (236)	169 (202)	114 (137)	806 (856)

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following table gives the number of cases of infectious disease notified in each district during 1963.

Disease	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Hungerford Rural	Newbury Rural	Total All Areas	
Smallpox	...	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria	...	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever	...	3	6	3	16	
Erysipelas	...	—	—	1	1	
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	1	—	—	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	1	—	2	
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	—	—	—	—	
Acute Polioencephalitis	...	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Encephalitis	...	—	—	—	—	
Meningococcal Infection	2	1	1	—	4	
Dysentery	...	—	4	—	5	
Acute Primary Pneumonia	3	9	—	9	21	
Measles	...	63	732	265	500	1560
Whooping Cough	...	1	31	14	2	48
Food Poisoning	...	—	—	—	—	
Respiratory Tuberculosis	9	8	1	8	26	
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	—	1	—	1	
Anthrax	...	—	—	—	—	

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

These services are under the control of the County Health Department under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Newbury Health Sub-Committee is responsible for diphtheria and whooping cough prophylaxis within the Borough of Newbury.

Immunisation is performed at Child Welfare Centres and by the general practitioners, who are also in the main responsible for smallpox vaccination.

Poliomyelitis vaccination is carried out by general practitioners and also at ad hoc clinics.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1963

Number of Children Immunised against Diphtheria

(Figures for 1962 in brackets)

District	Under 1	Over 1 but			Total
		Under 5	5—15		
Newbury Borough:					
Primary	103 (189)	180 (139)	3 (5)	286 (333)
Booster	— (—)	16 (30)	73 (73)	89 (103)
Bradfield Rural:					
Primary	136 (256)	367 (212)	8 (9)	511 (471)
Booster	20 (—)	139 (52)	43 (135)	202 (187)
Newbury Rural:					
Primary	84 (99)	181 (129)	2 (2)	267 (230)
Booster	— (—)	32 (26)	51 (49)	83 (75)
Hungerford Rural:					
Primary	29 (42)	67 (62)	2 (3)	98 (107)
Booster	— (—)	5 (—)	12 (11)	17 (11)

The following table shows the total number of Primary Diphtheria Immunisation carried out in the four areas during the last ten years.

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Newbury Borough:										
Under 5	...	178	215	236	275	270	277	282	341	328
5—15	...	6	8	13	3	1	1	2	30	5
Bradfield Rural:										
Under 5	...	290	261	238	249	383	435	303	423	462
5—15	...	44	79	9	6	—	23	21	10	9
Newbury Rural:										
Under 5	...	84	157	220	200	205	300	250	315	228
5—15	...	3	4	9	1	—	—	—	5	2
Hungerford Rural:										
Under 5	...	114	137	103	94	92	87	93	153	104
5—15	...	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	2	3
Total	...	721	861	830	830	951	1123	951	1279	1141
										1162

VACCINATION, 1963

(Figures for 1962 in brackets).

District	Over 1 but				Total
	Under 1	Under 5	5—15		
Newbury Borough:					
Primary	103 (75)	19 (197)	4 (366)	126 (638)
Re-Vaccination	... —	(—)	4 (135)	2 (264)	6 (399)
Bradfield Rural:					
Primary	359 (236)	48 (263)	6 (280)	413 (779)
Re-Vaccination	... —	(—)	— (85)	14 (423)	14 (508)
Newbury Rural:					
Primary	106 (84)	40 (263)	1 (311)	147 (658)
Re-Vaccination	... —	(—)	2 (96)	10 (436)	12 (532)
Hungerford Rural:					
Primary	49 (36)	16 (81)	— (90)	65 (207)
Re-Vaccination	... —	(—)	1 (46)	6 (120)	7 (166)
Total	617 (431)	130 (1166)	43 (2290)	790 (3887)

The following table shows the number of Children who during the past eight years were vaccinated when under one year of age.

District	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	
Newbury Borough	...	184	171	219	175	230	311	75	103
Bradfield Rural	...	215	221	309	329	303	353	236	359
Newbury Rural	...	179	195	191	233	291	236	84	106
Hungerford Rural	...	76	75	110	95	84	108	36	49
Total	654	662	829	832	908	1008	431	617

Number of Vaccinations carried out in infants under one year, compared with the annual number of births.

Area	Year	Live Births	Vaccinations	Percentage
Newbury Borough ...	1961	360	311	86.4
	1962	421	75	17.8
	1963			
Bradfield R.D.C. ...	1961	592	353	59.7
	1962	666	236	35.4
	1963			
Newbury R.D.C. ...	1961	401	236	58.4
	1962	412	84	20.4
	1963			
Hungerford R.D.C. ...	1961	165	108	65.4
	1962	155	36	23.3
	1963			
Joint District	1961	1518	1008	66.4
	1962	1654	431	26.0
	1963		617	26.0

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1963

Age Periods	Newbury Borough Non- Resp. Resp.	Bradfield Rural Non- Resp. Resp.	Newbury Rural Non- Resp. Resp.	Hungerford Rural Non- Resp. Resp.
0 — 1	— —	— —	— —	— —
1 — 5	— —	1 —	1 —	— —
5 — 10	— —	— —	— —	— —
10 — 15	1 —	— —	1 —	— —
15 — 20	— —	— —	— —	1 —
20 — 25	1 —	2 —	1 —	— —
25 — 35	1 —	— 1	1 —	— —
35 — 45	1 —	2 —	— —	— —
45 — 55	3 —	2 —	3 —	— —
55 — 65	2 —	1 —	— —	— —
65 & upward	— —	— —	1 —	— —
Totals	9 —	8 1	8 —	1 —

It is regretted that an error has occurred in the table at the top of Page 14 - this table should read as follows:-

Number of Vaccinations carried out in infants under one year, compared with the annual number of births.

Area	Year	Live Births	Vaccinations	Percentage
Newbury Borough	1961	360	311	86.4
	1962	421	75	17.8
	1963	427	103	24.1
Bradfield R.D.C.	1961	592	593	59.7
	1962	666	236	35.4
	1963	747	359	48.1
Newbury R.D.C.	1961	401	236	58.4
	1962	412	84	20.4
	1963	433	106	24.5
Hungerford R.D.C.	1961	165	108	65.4
	1962	155	36	23.3
	1963	172	49	28.5
Joint District	1961	1518	1008	66.4
	1962	1654	431	26.0
	1963	1779	617	34.7



The following table shows the number of new cases of tuberculosis (respiratory and non-respiratory) which have occurred in the four areas during the last ten years.

Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Totals
1954	37	8	45
1955	43	7	50
1956	60	7	67
1957	44	8	52
1958	35	3	38
1959	25	3	28
1960	24	1	25
1961	30	2	32
1962	17	1	18
1963	26	1	27

NEWBURY BOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the year

1963

STAFF

Chief Public Health Inspector:

J. HAGUE, F.A.P.H.I.

Qualifications:

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Food.

Additional Public Health Inspector. G. J. WICKENS, M.A.P.H.I.

Qualifications:

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Food.

Shorthand-Typist:

Mrs. C. A. KINGHAM.

(Resigned 31/12/63).

BOROUGH OF NEWBURY

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

HOUSING

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE.

Return for Year 1963.

A1. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

In Clearance Areas

(Housing Act, 1957)

	Houses demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation...	—	6	1
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. ...	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2), Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—

Not in Clearance Areas

(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1), Housing Act, 1957 ...	67	110	41
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the M.O.H. ...	2	18	5
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts ...	—	—	—
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders ...	—	—	—
A.2 Number of dwellings included above which were previously reported as closed ...	3	—	—

B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

	Number		
(8) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1), and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	16	5
(9) Under Section 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957 ...	6	1	1
(10) Parts of buildings, closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—	—

C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

		By Owner	By Local Authority
(11)	After informal action by local authority	23	—
(12)	After formal notice under		
	(a) Public Health Acts	2	—
	(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	3	—
(13)	Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	—	—

D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)

Position at end of 1963:—

		Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1)
	Number of Houses	
(14)	Retained for temporary accommodation (1)	(2)
	(a) Under Section 48	—
	(b) Under Section 17(2)	—
	(c) Under Section 46	—
(15)	Licensed for temporary occupation under Sections 34 or 35	—

E. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

		Number of occupants of houses in column (1)
	Number of Houses	
(16)	Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased in the year 1963	—

Housing Act, 1957.

Sub-Standard Housing:

Two Compulsory Purchase Orders affecting fifteen and eight houses respectively were confirmed by the Ministry during the year, and in addition a Clearance Order in respect of thirteen houses were also approved. Up to now all houses had been dealt with as individual unfit houses, but these three blocks of property required the procedures mentioned above.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of fifty-seven houses during the year, and undertakings not to re-let eleven houses for human habitation were agreed.

Sixty-seven houses were demolished during the year and six were closed and not re-let for human habitation.

Re-housing:

Forty-one of the families living in houses which were the subject of action under Section 17(1) were re-housed in Corporation houses during the year, and six other families from houses similarly dealt with found their own accommodation.

The table following shows the progress made with the elimination of sub-standard housing since the end of 1955 to the close of 1963:—

(1) (a)	Houses reported to Committee as unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable cost, or vacated for road improvements, etc.	437
(b)	Houses at present receiving consideration by the Committee	6
(2)	Compulsory Purchase Areas and Clearance Areas: Houses for which Compulsory Purchase Orders and Clearance Orders have been approved	36
(3)	Demolition Orders: Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders have been made	269
(4)	Closing Orders: Houses in respect of which undertakings to close have been accepted	100
(5)	Undertakings to Repair: Houses where undertakings to repair have been accepted	5
(6)	Road Improvements: Houses included in provisional list but which were vacated for road improvement prior to consideration by Committee	14
(7)	Sub-Standard Houses: Houses still to be considered by the Housing Committee	96

Overcrowding:

Two cases of overcrowding were dealt with during the year, the families being re-housed in Council houses.

FOOD SUPPLIES

The standard of premises used for the retail sale of food continued to improve, and whilst in most cases the improved structures led to better conditions the improvement in methods and care by the employees still left much to be desired in a number of cases. Approximately 650 visits and revisits were paid to premises where food was handled.

Milk and Dairies:

During the year members of the Public Health Committee visited a creamery in the district and saw the general work of the dairy from the arrival of the empty bottles to the washing, refilling and storage of the bottles ready for despatch. The difficulties experienced by the dairy trade through mis-used bottles, and subsequent wastage of these containers, was a point which gave members some concern.

Bacteriological examination of milk:

Samples procured for	Type of Milk	Total samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Remarks
1. Methylene Blue Test	T.T. Past	21 19	20 17	— —	1 void 2 void
2. Phosphatase Test	Past	19	19	—	—
3. Turbidity Test	Sterilised	1	1	—	—

Eleven series of bottles taken from the washer at the only pasteurising plant in the district were submitted to examination and the Bacteriologist's report showed that they were satisfactory.

Samples of Cream:

A series of sixty-two samples of pasteurised cream were taken from two dairies in the town. Whilst most of the samples could be said to be satisfactory, some samples were affected on the keeping quality test and this is attributed to *Bacillus Cereus*, an organism found in heat-treated milk which, whilst not being harmful, does reduce the keeping quality of the product. Re-organisation and modernisation of the dairy concerned was started before the end of the year and it is hoped that the improved conditions will result in a better product.

Manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream:

One hundred and twenty-two samples of ice-cream were examined and were placed in the following grades:—

Grade I	...	...	101	(82.75 %)
Grade II	...	...	9	(7.50 %)
Grade III	...	...	12	(9.75 %)
Grade IV	...	...	0	

The lower grade samples obtained were due to the wider use of the 'Softa-Freez' type of plant and lack of care in the cleaning of the plant could be attributed as the cause of the unsatisfactory samples. Stricter supervision by the Managements concerned resulted in a good series of samples before the end of the year.

Inspection of Meat and other Foodstuffs in Shops, etc.:

WEIGHTS OF CANNED AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

Canned ham	...	...	...	...	...	42 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	135 lbs.
Tinned food	...	...	...	...	...	777 lbs.

Total weight condemned = 8 cwts. 58 lbs.

Meat Inspection:

The new abattoir run by the Joint Slaughterhouses Board opened at the beginning of December; at the same time the old slaughterhouse in Wharf Road was closed. The other privately-owned slaughterhouse in the Borough also ceased to operate at the end of the year. Thus the slaughtering has now been concentrated in the Board's abattoir and the facilities and conditions available should make for an improvement all round in the handling and throughput of the meat.

The new inspection regulations became operative on the 1st October and, whilst the Local Authority are now able to make a more reasonable charge for inspection, the work involved by the regulations has also been considerably increased and the time required for meat inspection is even more considerable than in the past.

WEIGHTS OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OFFAL.

Classification					Tons	Cwts.	Lbs.
(1) At slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	27	1	105
(2) On retailers' premises:							
(a) Home killed	...	...	...	...	—	—	4
(b) Imported	...	...	...	...	—	2	51
(3) Total weight	...	...	...	...	27	4	48

	Cattle excluding Cows			Sheep and Lambs			Totals
	Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pigs		
Number slaughtered	...	1,941	1,616	1,013	15,871	30,236	50,677
Number inspected	...	1,941	1,616	1,013	15,871	30,236	50,677

All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci

Whole carcases condemned	3	19	19	12	129	182
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	282	589	4	448	2,494	3,817
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuber- culosis	...	14.7	37.6	2.2	2.9	8.6

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	22	22
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	263	263
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	0.9	
<hr/>						
Cysticercosis:						
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	—	—	2
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	2	—	—	—	—	2
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	
<hr/>						

FACTORIES, WORKPLACES, SHOPS, ETC.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

Part I of the Act.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	65	19	5	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	177	238	3	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority excluding outworkers' premises)	3	4	—	—
TOTAL ...	245	261	8	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND:

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found	Notified To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	11	10	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective 9	9	9	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes 1	1	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Acts (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	22	20	—	1	—

Clean Air Act, 1956:

Plans of proposed installations of boilers were approved in three instances under the Clean Air Act, 1956.

MISCELLANEOUS

Water Supplies:

One house which was previously without mains water supply was connected during the year and another property without mains supply was demolished. This left one property which was not connected to the mains and the last sample of water from this house was satisfactory.

Drainage:

Sixteen houses in Boundary Road were connected to the sewer and a source of recurring nuisance over the past few years has thus been eliminated.

PEST INFESTATION CONTROL AND DISINFECTION.

Rodent Control:

During the winter months it became necessary for the Joint Rodent Control Committee to employ an additional operator, as the infestation of rats reached a high level due to the mild winter. With the help of this additional operator it was possible to readily deal with all complaints of infestation.

The number of agricultural, horticultural and business premises which were under contract to the Joint Rodent Control Committee increased slightly during the year. At the end of 1963 the figures were:—

Newbury Borough	...	...	9
Newbury Rural District	...	...	41
Hungerford Rural District	...	...	32

A total of 82.

Wasps' Nests:

During 1963 a total of one hundred and twenty-one visits were made by the rodent operators for the purpose of destroying wasps' nests on domestic and business premises. These were made up as follows:—

Newbury Borough	...	...	78
Newbury Rural District	...	...	35
Hungerford Rural District	...	...	8

which figures show a 300% increase on the number so treated during 1962.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Return of work by Rodent Operators.

	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Agri-cultural	All other (including Business & Industrial)	Total
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's district	... ...	21	6,604	8	1,406 8,039
2. Number of properties inspected by Local Authority during 1963 as a result					
(a) of notification	... (a)	2	129	1	47 179
or (b) otherwise	... (b)	36	53	9	15 113
3. Number of properties under 2) found to be infested by rats	Major — Minor 28	— 162	— 9	— 39	— 238
4. Number of properties (under 2) found to be seriously infested by mice	... ... ...	2	14	—	9 25
5. Number of infested properties (under 3 and 4) treated by the Local Authority	... ...	30	176	9	48 263
6. Number of notices served under section 4:					
(1) Treatment	...	—	—	—	—
(2) Structural works (i.e., Proofing)					
Total	...	—	—	—	—
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4	...	—	—	—	—
8. Legal Proceedings	...	—	—	—	—
9. Number of "block" control schemes carried out					= 15.

BRADFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

Water Supplies:

New main extension laid during 1963 are as follows:—

Burghfield Bridge Area — the majority of 2,170 yds. of 4in. dia.

Burghfield Road, Theale — 320 yds. of 4in. dia.

Garlands Estate, Burghfield — 546 yds. of 3in. dia.

Hazlemere Estate, Mortimer — 250 yds. of 4in. dia.

Mill Lane, Calcot — 464 yds. of 4in. dia.

Pinchcut Estate, Burghfield — 600 yds. of 4in. dia.

The Mount Site, Tilehurst — 530 yds. of 4in. dia.

— 325 yds. of 3in. dia.

Uffington Close, Tilehurst — 235 yds. of 3in. dia.

Ufton Nervet — 100 yds. of 4in. dia.

White Lodge Estate, Purley — 122 yds. of 4in. dia.

making a total of approximately $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles.

A connection from a trunk main at Crookham Common was made in the summer which brought more water into the South Western end of the District. Various alterations have been made to improve the supplies to Pangbourne, Tidmarsh, Purley and Tilehurst.

Thirty-one samples were taken from private water supplies. Of these, four proved to be unsatisfactory. Two of the unsatisfactory samples were from estate supplies, and two from wells serving individual houses.

The position regarding these four supplies is as follows:—

Marlston Estate, Bucklebury:

A chlorination plant has been fitted to the system.

Maidenhatch Estate, Pangbourne:

Negotiations are being put in hand with a view to extending the main supplies to serve this estate.

Cottages at Reading Road, Burghfield (two wells):

The Council is considering the purchase of these cottages, with a view to the connection of mains water, and general modernisation.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Table showing the Estimated Position with regard to Main Water Supplies:

Parish	Total Houses	Pop.	Mains Water		No Mains Houses	Pop.
			Available Houses	Pop.		
Aldermaston	516	2087	497	2028	19	59
Ashampstead	131	390	122	367	9	23
Basildon	354	1074	350	1061	4	13
Beech Hill	86	307	80	291	6	16
Beenham	233	766	217	713	16	53
Bradfield	418	1492	393	1410	25	82
Bucklebury	722	2210	689	2098	33	112
Burghfield	821	2728	760	2536	61*	192
Englefield	69	226	—	—	69	226
Frilsham	101	327	84	275	17	52

Parish	Total		Mains Water		No Mains	
	Houses	Pop.	Available Houses	Pop.	Houses	Pop.
Grazeley	6	22	4	16	2	6
Padworth	154	475	117	353	37	122
Pangbourne	650	2245	616	2139	34	106
Purley	689	1987	689	1987	—	—
Stanford Dingley	53	132	49	120	4	12
Mortimer	799	2757	769	2654	30	103
Streatley	294	915	276	858	18	57
Sulham	31	98	—	—	31	98
Sulhamstead	469	1486	499	1424	20	62
Sul. Bannister	30	121	25	105	5	16
Theale	561	1701	548	1661	13	40
Tidmarsh	81	263	71	230	10	33
Tilehurst	2050	7324	2050	7324	—	—
Ufton	73	220	37	107	36	113
Wokefield	27	120	23	108	4	12
Yattendon	91	337	88	328	3	9
TOTALS	9,509	31,810	9,003	30,193	506	1,617
				94.9%		5.1%

* Mains extension under construction to serve twenty-one houses.

Sewage Disposal:

Brief details of progress made on the various schemes are as follows:—

Scheme.	Properties Served.	Remarks.
Tilehurst Relief Sewer.	—	Work is complete.
Bucklebury Common (a) Additional sewers and new sludge beds.	92	Sewer line complete. New sludge beds under construction.
(b) Enlargement of Treatment works.	—	Ministry approval awaited.
Bradfield Village Relaying and extending sewer line, and alterations to treatment works.	26 additional	Sewer 90% complete. Alterations to works in progress.
Burghfield Common New sewer line and alterations to treatment works.	135	Sewer line 60% complete. Alterations to treatment works in progress.
Purley New sewer line.	1372	Awaiting Ministry approval. Estimated starting date is 1964.
Pangbourne — Newtown Extension to sewer.	30	Awaiting Ministry approval.
Beenham Extension to sewer.	59 additional properties	A revised scheme has been prepared and will be submitted for Ministry approval shortly.
Sulhamstead—Wise's Firs New sewer line.	80	Detailed plans are in course of preparation.
Tilehurst—Halls Road Extension to sewer.	14 existing 14 proposed	Survey in hand.
Mortimer Additions to treatment works.	—	Awaiting Ministry approval.

The possibility of inaugurating a cesspool emptying service has again been under discussion. A survey is being made to ascertain the scope of the problem and a decision will be made when this information is to hand. It is extremely unlikely that areas such as Lower Padworth and Stanford Dingley will be sewered in the foreseeable future, and a cesspool clearance scheme appears to be the only way the Council can assist in these areas.

(a) HOUSING TABLE.

Number of dwellings built:

(a) by local authority	...	...	...	...	...	20
(b) by private enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	317

Inspections of dwellings during year:

1. (a) Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects	...	...	...	...	...	415
(b) Number of inspections for this purpose	...	...	...	...	...	478
2. Number of dwellings found to be unfit for habitation and not capable of repair at reasonable cost	...	...	...	...	...	5
3. Number of dwellings found to be unfit, but capable of repair at reasonable cost	...	...	...	...	...	72

Remedy of defects during year:

4. Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	...	...	...	...	...	57
5. Number of dwellings rendered fit by statutory action	...	...	...	...	...	3
6. Number of dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	1
7. Number of dwellings in respect of which Undertakings were made	...	...	...	...	...	2
8. Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	...	14
9. Number of dwellinghouses included in Clearance Orders made by the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
10. Number of dwellings included in Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
11. Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Clearance Orders	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

(b) IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

The following grants were authorised during the year:—

	Owner/Occupied Premises	Tenanted Premises	Total
Standard	...	12	8
Discretionary	...	33	66

Caravans:

Number of licensed caravans in the district:—

(a) Individually licensed	...	...	...	...	99
(b) On multiple sites	...	...	...	...	361 (actual)
					471 (permitted)

The position regarding the larger multiple sites is as follows:—

Site	Permitted No.	Period of Licence	Remarks
Garston Park, Tilehurst	222	Permanent	The site complies with the Model Standards.
Ravenswing, Aldermaston	150	Permanent	40 caravans on the site at the present time. Improvement works are in hand.
Pinelands, Aldermaston	42	Permanent	Improvement works are almost complete.

The Council has received Planning Permission for a site of seventy-five caravans at Purley. Part of the site is liable to flood, and before it can be developed, will have to be filled. The site is on the line of the proposed Purley Sewer, and is immediately adjacent to an existing community.

The problem of the Gypsy has again arisen. It is rare indeed for the District to be completely free of gypsies, or more correctly 'Diddicois,' and at one time there were seventeen caravans and tents on Wokefield Common.

In my opinion this problem will continue until such time as a proper site is provided. At the present time, these people are finding it increasingly difficult to find camping sites—most of the old traditional sites have been closed to them—with the result that they are camping on scraps of roadside waste and along bridle paths. It is, surely, no answer to keep 'pushing them on,' the only way to solve the problem is by education and integration of the future generations into the community. Whilst they are kept on the move it is impossible for the children to be educated, and thus there will be a further generation before any lasting cure can be effected.

Common Lodging Houses:

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the District.

Food—Inspection and Control:

(a) Food Hygiene Regulations:

No statutory action has been found necessary during the year. Improvements have been carried out to 11 premises.

Premises in the District include:—

Catering—Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	24
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	48
Works Canteens	...	...	...	10
Institutes, Clubs, etc.	...	...	...	15
Butchers	11
Bakeries	9
Grocers/General	76
Greengrocers	7
Confectioners	9
Others	4

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(b) Registrations under Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 16:

Sale of Ice Cream	4
Ham Boiling	...	...	...	...	1
Spit Roasting of Chicken	...	...	...	...	1

(c) Meat Inspection at the Slaughterhouse:

Throughput	Condemnations		Percentage of Inspection
	Whole Carcase	Part Carcase or Organ	
Calves	—	—	100%
Sheep	—	15	100%

(d) Condemnation of Meat and other Foods in Shops:

The following items were condemned:—

Meat	(a) Home Killed	...	238 lbs.
	(b) Imported	...	46 lbs.
	(c) Canned	...	77 lbs. Ham 6 lbs. New Zealand Lambs' Livers. 12 lbs. Corned Beef.

Other Foods:

29 Cases of sweets and chocolates were condemned because of mould growth and spoilage.

130 lbs. Canned Butter Beans.

40 lbs. Canned Plums.

Total contents of an Ice Cream Cabinet.

In addition, the contents of two deep-freeze cabinets were surrendered, as they had become thawed owing to electrical breakdowns, and were unfit for sale.

Refuse Collection:

Requests for a back door collection have been received from two Parish Councils as well as from a number of private householders. There are two main difficulties in running such a system. The first is the extra cost involved, and its effect on the rate, and the second is the practical difficulty of operating such a scheme in a rural area. A 'back-door' collection could be operated easily and relatively cheaply in the new built-up areas such as Tilehurst and Burghfield Common, but not so in areas such as Bucklebury Common where a number of houses are up to $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the road. As the district becomes more and more urbanised the pressure on the Council to improve the system will increase. The public will have to understand that a better service will mean a higher rate, but I am sure that, providing an improvement is made, the ratepayers will be willing to pay.

The problem of the 'dumper' is still with us. It was hoped that the Council's offer to collect large unwanted articles would alleviate the problem, but there is hardly a mile of road in the eastern half of the district without its car body, mattress or heap of miscellaneous junk. During the past year two men with a tractor and trailer have spent the equivalent of six weeks full time work clearing up verges and footpaths of rubbish. Amongst other things, fourteen car bodies have been collected and there are more still scattered about the district.

Disinfection and Disinfestation:

For the past two years, residents of Purley have complained of a nuisance from flies. The breeding places were found to be manure pits in the chicken houses on a nearby poultry farm. Several attempts have been made to eradicate the fly breeding but without success. Advice has been obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and put into effect, again without significant improvement. The Farm Manager has now undertaken to spray the manure pits daily with Pyrethrum, and it is hoped that this will be effective.

The problem is not confined to this District, similar trouble has been experienced all over the country. The Ministry of Agriculture's Laboratories together with a number of Insecticide Manufacturers are working on the problem in attempts to find a complete answer. One of the major difficulties is that the ammonia in the manure tends to break down the insecticide, thus rendering it ineffective. Another difficulty is of course, the danger to the poultry from the insecticide.

During the year, this type of nuisance was limited to two poultry farms in the district, the one reported above and one at Bucklebury. Fortunately, there is very little housing development in the vicinity of the Bucklebury farm so only a few people were affected.

However, intensive farming methods are on the increase, not only for poultry rearing and egg production, but including beef production and pig rearing. It is probable that this trend will accelerate during the next few years. Adequate precautions must be taken at the planning stage with regard to siting, design and method of operation of the units to ensure that the risk of nuisance is kept to an absolute minimum.

Rodent Control:

The following table shows the work carried out by the Rodent Control staff:—

	L.A.	Dwelling Houses	Business and Industrial	Total	Agri-cultural
1. No. of Properties Inspected as a result of					
(a) Notification ...	—	159	8	167	5
(b) Survey under the Act	40	4139	319	4498	319
(c) Otherwise ...	—	47	21	68	1
2. Total of Inspections carried out (includes re-inspection) ...	311	4651	637	5559	928
3. No. of properties found to be infested by:—					
(a) Rats (Major) ...	3	28	18	49	126
(Minor) ...	18	282	73	373	50
(b) Mice (Major) ...	7	65	31	103	35
(Minor) ...	—	109	4	113	—
4. No. of infested Properties treated by Local Authority ...	21	165	116	302	73
5. Total treatments carried out:— includes re-treatments ...	78	483	476	1037	709
6. Number of Notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work	—	—	—	—	—
7. No. of 'Block' Control Schemes carried out		11			

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	11	Nil	Nil
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	77	53	Nil	Nil
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	3	Nil	Nil
TOTAL ...	85	67	Nil	Nil

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Number of cases in which defects were found Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	2	2	—	—	—

HUNGERFORD RURAL DISTRICT

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

Summary of No. of Visits made during the Year:

No. of visits under Housing Acts ...	...	...	...	750
No. of visits under Public Health Acts ...	...	...	...	866
No. of visits under Petroleum Regulations ...	...	...	...	113
No. of visits made to Food Premises ...	...	...	...	504
No. of visits under Factories Acts ...	...	...	...	91

Water Supplies:

Piped supplies are available throughout the district as under:—

Parish	Supply Authority:
Combe and West Woodhay ...	Private piped estate supply.
Kintbury (Elcot) ...	Private piped estate supply.
Inkpen ...	Thames Valley Water Board.
Hungerford ...	Thames Valley Water Board.
Hungerford Newtown ...	Thames Valley Water Board.
Leverton Village ...	Private piped estate supply.
Lambourn (inc. Upper Lambourn and Eastbury) ...	Thames Valley Water Board.
Shefford ...	Thames Valley Water Board.
Lambourn Woodlands ...	Thames Valley Water Board.

The majority of the dwellings which have a main supply within a reasonable distance have now been connected, but action is being taken to provide the remainder with a suitable supply.

Table showing the estimated position with regard to Main and other Water Supplies:—

Parish	TOTAL	Houses	Pop.	Main water in houses	No mains
Combe and West Woodhay ...	57	190	56	—	
East Garston ...	148	494	117	31	
Inkpen ...	268	895	210	50	
Kintbury ...	634	2118	469	164	
Lambourn I.L.A. ...	648	2165	646	—	
Lambourn O.L.A. ...	231	772	210	20	
Hungerford ...	943	3151	922	—	
East Shefford ...	27	90	24	3	
West Shefford ...	171	571	144	27	

Samples:	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Samples taken from Public Supplies ...	8	0
Samples taken from Private Supplies ...	14	11

It will be noted that eleven samples of drinking water, taken for bacteriological examination, were found to be unsatisfactory. Investigations were carried out and advice given for the improvement of the supplies. Further samples were taken and these showed the required improvement.

SEWERAGE.

Hungerford Scheme:

Although progress has been made during the year, in the planning and purchase of land for the scheme, no firm report has yet been submitted. Considerable alterations to the original schemes have been necessary and it is expected that the revised scheme will be placed before the Council in the near future. It will be appreciated that as more dwellings and business premises are built and occupied, the unsatisfactory position is worsened and the general public become fully aware of it, during sudden and prolonged storms.

Lambourn Scheme:

The Lambourn Valley scheme appears to have overcome the defects which were very apparent in its early operating days and there is now little cause for concern.

Kintbury Scheme:

This scheme has now been in operation for some years and continues to be practically trouble-free.

Inkpen, Lambourn Woodlands, Woodland St. Mary, Upper Lambourn and Shefford Woodlands:

During the year a survey was made in areas where it was thought that no sewer would be available, mainly from the economical point of view.

In Inkpen and Lambourn Woodlands where the Council had dwellings, small schemes were in operation, but it was found that the majority of the private dwellings were connected to septic tank or cesspool systems; some even to soakaways (for waste water only). The information obtained, was that these systems worked reasonably well, being emptied only infrequently and did not, apparently, give rise to any serious complaints. However, it is doubtful whether all the systems are as satisfactory as reported and only detailed inspections would reveal this.

A cesspool clearance scheme was considered at the same time but it was not felt to be justified in the light of the present information.

HOUSING TABLE.

Number of Dwellings Built:

(a) By local authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
(b) by private enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	...	26

Inspections of dwellings during year:

1. (a) Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects ...	294
(b) Number of inspections for this purpose ...	348

Remedy of defects during year:

2. Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
3. Number of dwellings rendered fit by statutory action	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
4. Number of dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
5. Number of dwellings in respect of which Undertakings were made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
6. Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
7. Number of dwellinghouses included in Clearance Orders made by the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
8. Number of dwellings included in Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
9. Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Clearance Orders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Improvement Grants:

The following grants were authorised during the year:—

	Owner/Occupied Premises	Tenanted Premises	Total
Standard	...	7	7
Discretionary	...	5	12

CARAVANS.

(a) Individually licensed.

(b) On multiple sites.

The question of the individual caravan is still a very considerable problem and, while the provision of new houses is insufficient to cover the requirements, there will be the continual need for the licensing of individual sites. It is also very apparent that there are families who are more satisfied in caravan accommodation than houses.

The only multiple site in the district, at Mill Lane, Lambourn, is temporarily licensed for twelve caravans. After improvements have been carried out, planning permission will be granted for a further twelve caravans. It is expected that all will be completed before January, 1964.

The district has had no trouble where the gipsy or "Diddicois" are concerned. Only one visit was recorded and this for only a short while.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Milk and Dairies:

Routine sampling of milk for bacteriological examination was continued as in previous years.

	No. of Samples	—Tested and found satisfactory—			Unsatisfactory
		Methylene Blue Test	Phosphatase Test	Turbidity Test	
T.T. Past. CI.	4	4	4	N/A	—
T.T. Past.	5	5	5	N/A	—
Pasteurised	7	7	7	N/A	—
Sterilised	2	N/A	N/A	2	—
Raw T.T. CI.	1	1	N/A	N/A	—
T.T. Past. Hom.	2	2	2	N/A	—

Sale of Food.

No. of Food Premises in the District:

Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	18
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Caterers (Licensed and Industrial)	...	...	...	...	...	33
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fishmongers and Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	4
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	5
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	38
Milk Retailers	...	...	...	...	...	7
					Total	115

Unfit Food.

Food condemned as unfit for human consumption:

Two New Zealand Lambs	...	...	...	...	—
3 Cans Chopped Pork	...	...	...	...	131 lbs.
1 Can Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Tin of Lamb's Liver	...	...	...	...	7 lbs.
Smoked Liver Sausage	...	...	...	...	14 lbs.
4 Cans Cheese Fondue	...	...	...	...	3½ lbs.

Ice-Cream.

There are no manufacturers of ice-cream in the district, all retailers being registered for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream.

No. of premises registered	...	...	...	...	...	44
No. of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	60

Samples were taken during the year and graded as under:—

No. of Samples	Provisional Grade	I	II
18		18	0

REFUSE COLLECTION.

During the year consideration was given to the replacement of the 12 yds. side loading machine and an order was placed for a 35 yds. compression vehicle to be delivered early in the new year. This machine should go a long way to counteract the very big increase in the bulk of refuse, which is due largely to the paper and carton content. It will also help in the travelling to and from disposal sites—the number of journeys will be cut, but this saving will be eliminated if all the refuse has to be brought to a central site, as may well be the case in the near future.

Some thought has been given to the "paper sack" and "back-door" collection but both schemes would involve substantial increase in the costs of refuse collection and it was felt that the present circumstances did not justify any further increased costs.

The problem of obtaining suitable disposal sites for the refuse is becoming more difficult as time goes on and it has become obvious that a more closely controlled method of disposal must be carried out before sites will become available for this use.

It is felt that the council are very wise in continuing their policy of collecting all articles put out for collection at the normal times, these include mattresses, frames (bed and bicycles), water tanks and cylinders and pipes, etc. This method obviates special collections and, it is thought, prevents the owner dumping these articles before the next special collection. The one great difficulty is with unwanted cars, but arrangements can be made for these bodies to be taken to the Council's refuse tips. As a result there is a comparatively minor litter problem throughout the district.

Bin Hire Scheme:

The scheme continues to operate satisfactorily and the Council have now extended it. They have agreed to supply small refuse bins, free to old age pensioners. Although the scheme has helped in the improvement of the type of container used by the occupier, it must be pointed out that a considerable number of unsatisfactory containers are still used and further action is necessary in the matter.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Joint Scheme continues to operate in the Newbury and Hungerford districts and is proving very satisfactory. During the hard winter, infestations were surprisingly light, although during the latter part of the year, when the weather was comparatively good, the infestations were considerable and numerous.

The operators continue to treat the refuse disposal sites in the district, and it is felt that in general the work is effective. It is essential that these regular routine visits should be made to all the refuse sites, to ensure that the rat population is kept as low as possible.

The following table shows the work carried out by the Rodent Control Staff.

	L.A.	Dwelling Houses	Business & Industrial	Total	Agri-cultural
1. No. of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification ...	2	69	8	74	36
(b) Survey under the Act	17	49	7	73	40
(c) Otherwise ...	30	1462	446	1938	12
2. Total of inspections carried out includes re-inspection	99	324	35	458	361
3. No. of properties found to be infested by:—					
(a) Rats (Major)	—	1	—	1	16
(Minor)	2	61	6	69	20
(b) Mice (Major)	—	—	—	—	—
(Minor)	—	6	1	7	2
4. No. of infested properties treated by Local Authority	18	103	11	132	73
5. Total treatments carried out includes re-treatments ...	32	116	16	164	159
6. Number of Notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work	—	—	—	—	—
7. No. of 'Block' Control Schemes carried out ...	7	—	—	—	—

Factories and Workplaces:

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	— Number of — Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	31	Nil	Nil
2. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	40	53	Nil	Nil
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	52	84	Nil	Nil

PETROLEUM.

The number of premises licensed at the end of the year stands at 68, consisting of:—

14 Filling Stations and Garages.

54 Private Installations.

NEWBURY RURAL DISTRICT

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

Water Supplies:

During the year five samples were taken for bacteriological examination. Two of these were not satisfactory and appropriate action was taken to ensure a pure supply.

The following table shows the position in the various parishes. Some of the houses not connected to the main supply, have a piped water supply from a private source.

Parish	Population			Number of Houses	Houses with main water
Boxford	550	172	120
Brimpton	556	165	120
Chieveley	2,003	496	425
Cold Ash	1,843	469	460
Enborne	603	165	142
Greenham	926	265	260
Hamstead Marshall	186	77	50
Leckhampstead	425	127	125
Midgham	396	109	68
Shaw-cum-Donnington	2,141	613	592
Speen	1,604	428	334
Thatcham	8,330	2,335	2,190
Wasing	61	18	14
Welford	686	222	185
Winterbourne	169	76	38
Woolhampton	681	160	100
	21,160			5,897	5,223

Sewage Disposal:

The following sewerage works were carried out during the year:—

1. Cold Ash and Woolhampton Main Drainage schemes were completed.
2. The surface water and drainage scheme to prevent flooding in Station Road area of Thatcham 80% complete.
3. Preliminary work carried out for sewerage scheme to Burden's Heath, Thatcham

Food Supplies:

The following table shows the number of food shops in the area in addition to which there are forty hotels and public houses.

Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Bakers and Confectioners (4 bakeries)							5
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Sugar Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

No formal action has been necessary under the Food Hygiene Regulations, but routine visits have ensured a satisfactory standard. Five butchers are licensed for the manufacture of sausages, and 70 premises are licensed for the sale of ice-cream. The slaughterhouse at Pound Lane continued to operate during the year and the following table shows the number of animals killed and the estimated amount of meat condemned.

		No. of animals slaughtered		No. of whole carcases condemned		Total weight of meat condemned in pounds
Pigs	...	15,262	(15,037)	28	(46)	15,153 (14,421)
Sheep	...	643	(500)	1	(Nil)	97 (53)
Calves	...	53	(58)	Nil	(1)	25 (215)
		15,958	(15,595)	29	(47)	15,275 (14,689)

The figures in brackets refer to 1962.

Housing:

Housing Table:

No. of dwellings built:

(a) By local authority	...	...	...	...	...	108
(b) By private persons	...	...	...	...	...	83

Inspections of dwellings during year:

(1) (a) Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects	284
(b) Number of inspections for this purpose	325
(2) Number of dwellings found to be unfit for habitation and not repairable at reasonable cost	...
(3) Number of dwellings found to be unfit, but capable of repair at reasonable cost	70

Remedy of defects during year:

(4) Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	...	...	...	...	...	6
(5) Number of dwellings rendered fit by statutory action	...					1
(6) Number of dwellings in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	8
(7) Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	...	...	...	...	...	2
(8) Number of dwellings included in Clearance Areas	...					Nil
(9) Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Clearance Areas	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Grants for improvement of private houses:

Discretionary grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Standard grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	13

Caravans:

The following table shows the number of caravan sites:—

1	...	...	...	...	...	100
2	...	...	...	...	...	69
3	...	...	...	...	...	30
4	...	...	...	...	...	30
5	...	...	...	...	...	18
6	...	...	...	...	...	5
7	...	...	...	...	...	5
						257

In addition to the above there are about forty licensed caravans on small sites containing less than five vans. During the year thirty families were rehoused in Council houses from caravans.

Refuse Collection:

A weekly kerbside collection of refuse was operated during the year. Disposal of the refuse was by controlled tipping at Pound Lane, Thatcham. The Council considered a comprehensive report on refuse collection and disposal during the year and decided to introduce a back door collection system. The decision on the date for implementing the improved collection service was left until 1964, when a report would be considered on the operation of the paper bag collection system at the Chapel Street Housing Site, Thatcham.

Rodent Control:

Treatment carried out in the district under the Joint Scheme with Newbury Borough and Hungerford R.D.C. is set out below:—

	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	Non-Agricultural		Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3 (4)	Agricultural (5)
			All other (including Business Premises) (3)			
1. No. of properties in Local Authority's District	...	25	5,897	713	6,635	409
2. Total Number of properties inspected as a result of notification	...	3	161	26	190	40
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—						
Common rat						
Major						
Minor	...	3	153	21	177	33
Ship rat						
Major						
Minor	...					
House mouse						
Major						
Minor	...	—	8	3	11	2

	Local Authority (1)	Non-Agricultural Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	All other (including Business Premises)	Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3 (4)	Agricultural (5)
3. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	13	149	2	164	33
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common rat					
Major	...				4
Minor	...	12	128	1	141
Ship rat					
Major					
Minor					
House mouse					
Major				1	1
Minor	...				3
4. Total number of properties otherwise inspected (i.e. when visited primarily for some other purpose) —	—	6	41	47	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common rat					
Major					
Minor					
Ship rat					
Major					
Minor					
House mouse					
Major					
Minor					
5. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections ...	45	899	83	1,027	558
(To be completed only if figures are readily available)					
6. Number of infested properties (in Sections II, III and IV) Treated by L.A. ...	15	26	26	310	73
7. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments ...	17	343	29	389	173
(To be completed only if figures are readily available). (See Note 3).					

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

This table is enclosed by a request of the Minister of Labour to indicate to Medical Officers of Health the prescribed particulars which are required by Section 153(1) of the Factories Act, 1961, to be furnished in their Annual Reports with respect to matters under Parts I and VIII of that Act which are administered by the District Council. This table, which is not intended to supersede the fuller statement which is desirable in the text of the Report, should be attached as an annex to the Report.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1963 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT
OF NEWBURY IN THE COUNTY OF BERKS.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1961.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises 1	No. on Register 2	Inspec- tions 3	Number of Written Notices 4	Prosecu- tions 5
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced Local Authorities ...	6	4	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	69	20	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...				
Total ...	75	24	—	—

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Number of cases in which defects were found	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	5	5	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—	—

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